

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5300

OFFERED BY MS. TITUS OF NEVADA

Add at the end the following:

1 **TITLE** **VIII—INTERNATIONAL**
2 **CHILDREN WITH DISABIL-**
3 **ITIES PROTECTION ACT OF**
4 **2025**

5 **SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE.**

6 This title may be cited as the “International Children
7 with Disabilities Protection Act of 2025”.

8 **SEC. 802. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this title:

10 (1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
11 means the Department of State.

12 (2) FAMILY.—The term “family” includes mar-
13 ried and unmarried parents, single parents, adoptive
14 families, kinship care, extended family, and foster
15 care.

16 (3) ORGANIZATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABIL-
17 ITIES.—The term “organization of persons with dis-
18 abilities” means a nongovernmental civil society or-
19 ganization with staff leadership and a board of di-
20 rectors the majority of which consists of—

1 (A) people with disabilities;

2 (B) individuals who were formerly placed
3 in a residential institution; or

4 (C) family members of children or youth
5 with disabilities.

6 (4) RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTION.—The term
7 “residential institution”—

8 (A) means a facility where children live in
9 a collective arrangement that is not family-
10 based and that—

11 (i) may be public or privately man-
12 aged and staffed;

13 (ii) may be small or large; and

14 (iii) may or may not be designated for
15 children with disabilities; and

16 (B) includes an orphanage, a children’s in-
17 stitution, a group home, an infant home, a chil-
18 dren’s village or cottage complex, a boarding
19 school used primarily for care, and any other
20 residential setting for children.

21 **SEC. 803. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

22 It is the policy of the United States to—

23 (1) assist countries abroad in creating rights
24 protection programs for people with disabilities and
25 developing policies and social supports to ensure that

1 children with disabilities can grow up as members of
2 families and make the transition to independent liv-
3 ing as adults;

4 (2) promote the development of advocacy skills
5 and leadership abilities of people with disabilities
6 and family members of children and youth with dis-
7 abilities so that such individuals can effectively par-
8 ticipate in their local, regional, and national govern-
9 ments to promote policy reforms and programs to
10 support full inclusion in families of children with dis-
11 abilities;

12 (3) promote the development of laws and poli-
13 cies that—

14 (A) strengthen families and protect against
15 the unnecessary institutionalization of children
16 with disabilities; and

17 (B) create opportunities for youth with dis-
18 abilities to receive the resources and support
19 needed to achieve their full potential and transi-
20 tion to independent living as adults;

21 (4) promote participation by different groups of
22 people with disabilities and their families in advo-
23 cating for disability rights and reforms to legal
24 frameworks; and

1 (5) promote the sustainable action needed to
2 bring about changes in law, policy, and programs to
3 ensure full family inclusion of children with disabil-
4 ities and the transition of children with disabilities
5 to independent living as adults.

6 **SEC. 804. INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**
7 **PROTECTION PROGRAM AND CAPACITY**
8 **BUILDING.**

9 (a) INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES
10 PROTECTION PROGRAM.—

11 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—There is
12 established within the Bureau of Democracy,
13 Human Rights, and Labor of the Department a
14 grant and capacity-building program to be known as
15 the “International Children with Disabilities Protec-
16 tion Program” (in this section referred to as the
17 “Program”).

18 (2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Program is
19 to assist organizations of persons with disabilities
20 and family members of children with disabilities in
21 communicating about and advocating for policies
22 that ensure the family inclusion and transition to
23 independent living of children with disabilities to ad-
24 vance the policy described in section 803.

1 (3) CRITERIA.—The Secretary of State, in con-
2 sultation with leading civil society groups with exper-
3 tise in global disability rights, shall establish criteria
4 for—

5 (A) applications for grants awarded under
6 paragraph (4); and

7 (B) the selection of—

8 (i) the countries or regions targeted
9 under the Program;

10 (ii) priority activities funded through
11 grants awarded under paragraph (4); and

12 (iii) capacity-building needs of recipi-
13 ents of grants awarded under paragraph
14 (4).

15 (4) DISABILITY INCLUSION GRANTS.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State
17 may award grants to eligible implementing
18 partners to administer grant amounts directly
19 or through subgrants.

20 (B) ELIGIBLE IMPLEMENTING PART-
21 NERS.—For purposes of this paragraph, an eli-
22 gible implementing partner is a nongovern-
23 mental organization or other civil society orga-
24 nization that—

1 (i) has the capacity to administer
2 grant amounts—

3 (I) directly; or

4 (II) through subgrants that can
5 be effectively used by emerging new
6 organizations of persons with disabil-
7 ities; and

8 (ii) has expertise in disability rights.

9 (C) PRIORITY.—The Secretary of State
10 shall prioritize awarding grants under this
11 paragraph to eligible implementing partners
12 with experience operating or administering sub-
13 grants in countries for which the Assistant Sec-
14 retary of State for Democracy, Human Rights,
15 and Labor, in consultation with the United
16 States Government Special Adviser and Senior
17 Coordinator for the Administrator of the United
18 States Agency for International Development
19 on Children in Adversity, has determined that
20 there are significant populations of children liv-
21 ing in residential institutions.

22 (D) SUBGRANTS.—An eligible imple-
23 menting partner that receives a grant under
24 this paragraph should seek to—

1 (i) provide not less than 50 percent of
2 the grant amount through subgrants to
3 local organizations of persons with disabili-
4 ties and other nongovernmental organiza-
5 tions working in country to advance the
6 policy described in section 803; and

7 (ii) provide, of any amount distributed
8 pursuant to clause (i)—

9 (I) 75 percent to organizations of
10 persons with disabilities; and

11 (II) 25 percent to other non-
12 governmental organizations.

13 (b) CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMS.—The Secretary
14 of State is authorized to provide funds to nongovernmental
15 organizations with expertise in capacity building and tech-
16 nical assistance to develop capacity-building programs
17 to—

18 (1) develop disability leaders, legislators, policy-
19 makers, and service providers to plan and implement
20 programs to advance the policy described in section
21 803;

22 (2) build the advocacy capacity and knowledge
23 of successful models of rights enforcement, family
24 support, and disability inclusion among disability,
25 youth, and allied civil society advocates, attorneys,

1 and professionals to advance the policy described in
2 section 803;

3 (3) create online programs to train policy-
4 makers, activists, and other individuals on successful
5 models of reform, services, and rights protection to
6 ensure that children with disabilities can live and
7 grow up with families and become full participants
8 in society, which—

9 (A) are available globally;

10 (B) offer low-cost or no-cost training ac-
11 cessible to persons with disabilities, family
12 members of such persons, and other individuals
13 with potential to offer future leadership in the
14 advancement of the goals of family inclusion,
15 transition to independent living as adults, and
16 rights protection for children with disabilities;
17 and

18 (C) should be targeted to government pol-
19 icymakers, disability activists, and other poten-
20 tial allies and supporters among civil society
21 groups; and

22 (4) create study tours so activists and policy-
23 makers from abroad can observe and better under-
24 stand the operation of successful models of family
25 and community inclusion and rights advocacy, in-

1 including exposing such activists and policymakers to
2 models of good practice in the United States.

3 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
5 appropriated to carry out this section amounts as
6 follows:

7 (A) \$2,000,000 for fiscal year 2024.

8 (B) \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years
9 2025 through 2029.

10 (2) CAPACITY-BUILDING AND TECHNICAL AS-
11 SISTANCE PROGRAMS.—Of the amounts authorized
12 to be appropriated by paragraph (1), not less than
13 \$1,000,000 for fiscal year 2024 and not less than
14 \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through
15 2029 are authorized to be available for capacity-
16 building and technical assistance programs to sup-
17 port disability rights leadership and to train and en-
18 gage policymakers, professionals, and allies in civil
19 society organizations in foreign countries.

20 **SEC. 805. BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION.**

21 (a) ANNUAL BRIEFING REQUIRED.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than an-
23 nually through fiscal year 2029, the Secretary of
24 State shall submit to the Committee on Health,
25 Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Committee on

1 Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Appropria-
2 tions of the Senate a briefing on—

3 (A) the programs and activities carried out
4 to advance the policy described in section 803;
5 and

6 (B) any broader work of the Department
7 in advancing that policy.

8 (2) ELEMENTS.—Each briefing required by
9 paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to each
10 program carried out under section 804—

11 (A) the rationale for the country and pro-
12 gram selection;

13 (B) the goals and objectives of the pro-
14 gram, and the kinds of participants in the ac-
15 tivities and programs supported;

16 (C) a description of the types of technical
17 assistance and capacity building provided; and

18 (D) an identification of any gaps in fund-
19 ing or support needed to ensure full participa-
20 tion of organizations of persons with disabilities
21 or inclusion of children with disabilities in the
22 program.

23 (b) REPORTS REQUIRED.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not less frequently than
25 once every 3 years through fiscal year 2029, the

1 Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on
2 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Com-
3 mittee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on
4 Appropriations of the Senate a report on the mat-
5 ters described in subsection (a)(1).

6 (2) ELEMENTS.—Each report required by para-
7 graph (1) shall include the elements described in
8 subsection (a)(2).

9 (3) CONSULTATION.—In preparing each report
10 required by paragraph (1), the Secretary of State
11 shall consult with organizations of persons with dis-
12 abilities.

13 **SEC. 806. PROMOTING INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION AND**
14 **ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABIL-**
15 **ITIES.**

16 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON PROGRAMMING AND
17 PROGRAMS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

18 (1) all programming of the Department and the
19 United States Agency for International Development
20 related to childcare reform, improvement of health
21 care systems, primary and secondary education, dis-
22 ability rights, and human rights should seek to be
23 consistent with the policy described in section 803;
24 and

1 (2) programs of the Department and the
2 United States Agency for International Development
3 related to children, health care, and education—

4 (A) should—

5 (i) engage organizations of persons
6 with disabilities in policymaking and pro-
7 gram implementation; and

8 (ii) support full inclusion of children
9 with disabilities in families; and

10 (B) should aim to avoid support for resi-
11 dential institutions for children with disabilities
12 except in situations of conflict or emergency in
13 a manner that protects family connections as
14 described in subsection (b).

15 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON CONFLICT AND EMER-
16 GENCIES.—It is the sense of Congress that—

17 (1) programs of the Department and the
18 United States Agency for International Development
19 serving children in situations of conflict or emer-
20 gency, among displaced or refugee populations, or in
21 natural disasters should seek to ensure that children
22 with and without disabilities can maintain family
23 ties; and

24 (2) in situations of emergency, if children are
25 separated from parents or have no family, every ef-

1 fort should be made to ensure that children are
2 placed with extended family, in kinship care, or in
3 a substitute family.

